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## Individual Complaint Form

Date\*: 5/25/19

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Complainant or Legal Representative Information: \* Required Fields

MAY 30 2019

PSC SC  
MAIL / DMS

Name \* Charles Lewis

Firm (if applicable)

Mailing Address \* 16 Bowler Rd

City, State Zip \* Taylors, SC, 29687

Phone \* 864 252 8895

E-mail

Name of Utility Involved in Complaint: \*

Type of Complaint (check appropriate box below.) \*

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Billing Error/Adjustments | <input type="checkbox"/> Deposits and Credit Establishment | <input type="checkbox"/> Wrong Rate    | <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to Connect Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disconnection of Service  | <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Arrangements              | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Line Extension Issue       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Service Issue             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meter Issue            |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (be specific)       |  |  |   |

Have you contacted the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS)? \* ☒ Yes ☐ No

Name of ORS Contact: spoke w/ Brad Kruger

Concise Statement of Facts/Complaint: \* (This section must be completed. Attach additional information to this page if necessary.)

The latest I hear is 87% of people are especially susceptible to radiation. I definitely, My Duke Energy, in Florida, supply bi-directional analog meters so it's false that those aren't made. In NJ, Duke waives its heavy surcharges for non-radiating, given a Bris note, I ask that this be approved ASAP, as I'm on my 55 pension, with grave urination, kidney h/p, elbow, leg symptoms plus solar panel system for which I owe \$14k a month for 12 yrs due but can't use w/o one, I request

Relief Requested: \* (This section must be completed. Attach additional information to this page if necessary.)

- Florida-style bi-directional analog electric meter, so I can crank up my solar panels w/o these grave symptoms
- Approval of Duke's request to implement its \$150 down \$12 a month forever for not having "smart" meter, w/ Bris note

\*\*I GIVE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA PERMISSION TO PUBLISH THIS COMPLAINT AND ITS CONTENTS ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE (dms.psc.sc.gov), AND I UNDERSTAND SUCH INFORMATION MAY BE SUBJECT TO PUBLIC SCRUTINY OR FURTHER RELEASE.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Charles Lewis  
Complainant's Signature\* (MUST BE SIGNED, DO NOT PRINT)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF )

### VERIFICATION

I, Charles R Lewis  
Complainant's Name \*

verify that I have read my complaint filed on 5/25/19  
Date \*

and know the contents thereof, and that said contents are true.

Charles Lewis  
Complainant's Signature\* (MUST BE SIGNED, DO NOT PRINT)

Internal Use Only

Processed By	Date
H.E.	



Charles Lewis  
16 Bomar Rd  
Taylors, SC 29687  
5/21/19

*Public Service Commission*  
South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff

~~1401 Main Street, Suite 900~~

Columbia, SC 29201

*101 Executive Center Suite 100*

Dear Sirs/Madams:

This is by way of official complaint vs Duke Energy, here in Greenville County, regarding my severe health issues stemming from radiation at least in part from Duke's mandated radiating digital ("smart") meters. My health (and, incidentally, that of one of the stray cats I've adopted, completely concurrently – not to mention the disappearance of most of the bugs that tended to hover around my trailer, another oft noted indication of extreme radiation exposure) has declined dramatically over the past few months.

I am, retired, disabled, on a tiny Social Security pension, and not able to get out and around as much as I would like. Still, those times that I have been able to vacate – along with those recent periods when my smart meter has been replaced with an analog – or at least a non-radiating digital – type, that health has markedly improved.

The problem is that – prior to my coming down with a complex of medical afflictions I'll describe below (and which are reported in greater detail in the accompanying letter from my long-term physician) – I purchased, via the money from a personal loan, a solar panel system, for which I am obligated to pay \$147.41 a month over 12 years.

Unfortunately, while Duke, in Florida, offers non-radiating bi-directional meters compatible with solar panels, through which one can "sell back" excess electricity to that company, it currently refuses to offer them here in South Carolina. And whereas in North Carolina the company waives its onerous \$150 charge – followed by \$11.75 (subject to periodic increases) per month in perpetuity, for having, not a "smart," but a non-radiating meter, the SC legislature has not yet passed legislation mandating that here, and, while the very lives of people like me depend on being able to afford such meters, Duke has not seen fit to exercise its prerogative to do likewise in the Palmetto State.

EMF, microwave, and similar radiation (from Chernobyl to the elementary school in Modesto, California, where, recently, a 5G tower apparently caused 7 staff and students to contract cancer within a few months of its installation) has long been shown to have adverse health effects, especially on those susceptible (the SC government, just for example, has been made aware of the death from smart meter exposure, of a Mr Holloway, a close friend of state Representative Mike Burns). The World Health Organization classifies smart meter radiation as a probable Class 2B carcinogen. I understand that about one in ten people fits that "susceptible" description (among felines, if my brood is an indicator, it is more like one in three).

Judging by my past experiences, I am definitely in that sensitive category. Over the years, whenever I have been exposed to gross radiation (such as when I would get x-rayed while I was in a rehab center for over a month with a broken and dislocated kneecap, or when I would inadvertently get caught for hours, working on a computer, in the direct line between a wireless router and a plugged-in-between-uses Roku box, I would inevitably come down with prostate (mine's quite enlarged) symptoms (practically incessant urination – in the x-ray case, about once an hour around the clock).

I would try various treatments, most to no effect. The only thing that worked – and it *always* worked, within 24-48 hours – was a natural remedy long noted for its success in such instances. And the given symptoms would never return till my next gross radiation exposure, usually at least many months later.

Nonetheless, once my symptoms relevant to my smart meter (I corrected for any other reasonable possibilities, getting rid of my chordless phone system and disconnecting my wireless router) became noticeable, the given supplements have provided no more than a few hours' relief. In keeping with the fact that in the past the symptoms returned only when I inadvertently suffered another substantial radiation exposure, this fact dovetails with the smart meter notion, as such appliances keep one *constantly* exposed to what there is of radiation.

A very short while after the prostate systems manifested, complications were added; like those pertaining to the prostate, these have not significantly improved over the months of their presence (nor has the suddenly meager eating patterns of that cat). In me, these symptoms include great pain whenever I stand – in areas of my body where I have suffered no physical trauma: my kidneys, my hips and surrounding areas, my buttocks, my thighs, and my lower legs (especially on my left side). Walking, and even standing, is generally excruciating.

I am aware (and this is sobering) that such symptoms often represent a spread from the prostate (for one, noted oncologist Dr Gio Espinosa, of NYU, made this clear in a recently posted interview), and can indicate metastasized cancer. My walking, especially around my home, where I am normally at my worst, is usually, by necessity, with a walker, and it is extremely slow and painstaking.

Giving further credibility to my hypothesis re the smart meter, the rare times I am able to spend lengthy periods away from my home (such as during my trips to my doctor's office or my once-a week volunteer work at my church – a task to which I am committed as long as there is the slightest way I can manage it) my symptoms, while hardly disappearing, diminish significantly.

Similarly, during a short period where, having given up, at least temporarily, on finally cranking up the solar panel system for which I paid (via that long-term loan) way back last August, I had Duke replace my smart meter with one that did not emit rays, my *prostate* health, at least, improved noticeably. For the first time since my symptoms' recent onset, I made it through several nights without waking and having to get up to urinate.

Subsequently, Duke (in an example of how the company so typically gets its wires {or, if you will, its *wireless?*} crossed) showed up (when I was away at the vet with my cat) and switched out the benign meter for a smart one compatible with solar. I am convinced, from this experience, that such a meter is even worse than the normal non-solar-friendly smart one Duke offers. For instance, my nights – till I could get Duke to re-install the non-radiating one – were the most multiply interrupted (with bathroom visits) of the whole period, and the effects – unlike those of the original smart meter – seemed to last several days past its replacing, before, finally, the symptoms began to alleviate.

And, as a further indication of the confusion reigning at Duke, it took several days of calls to convince the company I no longer had that non-radiating meter (their records showed no replacement with a "hot" one) and to send someone out to correct the situation. Quite a few different employees kept assuring me that the "gentle" one was still installed; my body told me otherwise. Only when I went outside and, creeping along in pain, negotiated the rough terrain around my house to the meter and, on my return, reported to them the information on the new *smart* meter, did they consent to "re-replace" it.

As Duke, in Florida, at least, is able to combine the benefits of removal of a radiating meter with solar panel compatibility, I have no doubt it can do so here, but its representatives, so far, all feign the ludicrous position that it cannot be done here. And if, in accordance with the North Carolina legislature's dictate (one that I understand is under consideration here), Duke can survive there despite waiving that \$150 fee and that \$11.75-a-month (and, as time goes by, up) surcharge (as a ransom due for being allowed to escape the given "death rays") in cases where a medic's note calls for it, I should be able to avail myself of that, as well.

Please, then, persuade Duke Energy to provide me with such considerations (involving, preferably, an analog, as opposed to modified digital, meter), as soon as possible.

Recently, state regulators showed excellent judgment in denying Duke's request for a huge increase in base hooked-up fees – charges that would have applied to those connected without regard for how much – if any – energy is used. Indigent residents like myself would have been the most affected. For SC to join the growing list of states safeguarding their citizens against what, especially regarding sensitive individuals, constitutes a grave public health threat will be a fitting follow-up.

Respectfully,

Charles Lewis  
Taylors

P.S.: Since I composed the above letter, there have been 2 significant developments:

(1) With several days having passed since the 2<sup>nd</sup> installation of that "disabled digital" meter, I can attest to the definite return of the at-least-close-to-normal urination pattern I lacked for the several months of my recent malady (except for that interrupted week when the smart meter was out of here). I have likewise noted at least a hint of improvement in mobility. Concurrently:

(a) That cat, while still not "thowin' down" the way she once did and her 2 "teammates" have all along, has at least *begun* to eat a noticeably increased amount, and

(b) Unfortunately, those bugs have returned, with a vengeance (I can reluctantly accept that part of the bargain, though), and

(2) I have been contacted, through a physician who focuses on such matters, by another South Carolina Duke customer, Lisa Meserve, of Fort Mill, who has suffered from the onset and continuation of symptoms practically identical to mine (very frequent urination and disabling pain in the legs, hips, and kidneys), and who seeks the same remedial agreement with the company (installation of a Florida-style bi-directional analog Duke meter and North Carolina-style medical waiver of the surcharges) that I seek.

cc: Duke Energy